

Library Quarterly

SPRING 2023

Computer classes / p.7

Kid Market / p.12

Storytimes / p.16



the magazine of the Vernon Area Public Library



Message from the Director

Anne Rasmussen

Greetings from the Director's Desk! Let me introduce myself: My name is Anne Rasmussen, and I began as your Vernon Area Public Library District Director last September. I previously served in Wisconsin libraries, and was drawn to this library district for many reasons, including its wonderful schools, rich cultural diversity, a clear value on preserving nature, and a focus on sustainability. As a visitor to this library, I was impressed with the vast collections and services offered and equally thrilled with the friendly, professional and knowledgeable support that library staff provide. My guess is that you, too, have had the same reactions to how you experience your community and your library.

Some of you have seen me out and about in the library, speaking with staff and patrons; I have introduced myself to some of you at local Chamber of Commerce meetings and Rotary meetings. We may have been in dialogue together at events such as Lincolnshire's Comprehensive Planning meetings. I have a keen eye towards building community through the services we provide, and I look forward to meeting more of you to learn what your hopes are for our Library District moving forward. If you have thoughts you'd like to share with me about the library, please drop me a line at director@vapld.info.

I hope you enjoy this edition of Vernon Area's quarterly newsletter. Plan your next visit to get recommendations on great reads and resources to check out, and to connect at programs and events tailored to serve you and your family!

Vernon Area Public Library

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Library News



Vernon Area Receives National Recognition

Vernon Area was honored among "America's Star Libraries" for 2022. The distinction ranks us among the top 4.8% of public libraries in the U.S.

Trade publication Library Journal conducts the Star Library ranking each year. Their index scores libraries according to amount of patron use, including library visits, checkouts, Wi-Fi use and other factors.

The top performers — "Star Libraries" — are assigned three, four, or five stars, similar to Michelin Guide ratings for restaurants. The result is a short list of the country's highest-performing public libraries. Vernon Area Public Library District received four stars.

Of more than 5,300 libraries assessed, Vernon Area is one of just 258 nationwide to make the cut. Illinois public libraries performed exceptionally well in the 2022 rankings, with more libraries named to the list than any other state. Neighboring Cook Memorial, Deerfield, Elmhurst, Indian Trails, and Northbrook libraries were also recognized.

Like Michelin stars, being named a "Star Library" is a prestigious honor. It is an objective measurement of the job we do and an affirmation that our efforts are well received by our patrons.



Shoe Recycling

In the weeks leading up to Earth Day, bring your old footwear to the library for recycling. Gently used pairs are donated to local charities. Worn-out athletic shoes are broken down into component materials and recycled. Partner SWALCO (Solid Waste Agency of Lake County) aims to recycle or reuse 95% or more of all the materials collected. Please tie or rubber-band your pairs of shoes together before donating. No snow boots, please. Drop in the library lobby collection box between April 7–22.



Food Pantry Dropoff

Help eliminate hunger in your hometown: Make a food pantry donation part of your library routine. Donate nonperishable food items any time at the Vernon Township Food Pantry collection box in the library lobby. Find a list of always-needed and current wishlist items on the Vernon Township website at [VernonTownship.com](https://www.vernontownship.com).



Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage Month

Stop by the library during May to explore Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) history and traditions. We'll showcase the generations of Asian and Pacific Islanders who have enriched America's history and continue to influence U.S. culture.

AAPI Heritage Month celebrates the achievements of Americans whose roots reach back to the Asian continent or the Pacific islands of Melanesia, Micronesia, and Polynesia.

The distinctive music, crafts, films, and stories from this incredibly diverse population will be featured in programs and displays for all ages. Join in by registering for a free program or selecting a book from the display in the lobby.

An interactive exhibit installed throughout the library will introduce you to artists, activists, writers, and scientists featured in the book, *We Are Here: 30 Inspiring Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders Who Have Shaped the United States*. Explore and experience this inclusive project developed by the Asian Pacific American Center at the Smithsonian.

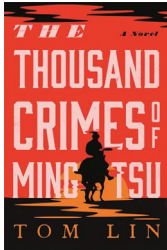
The origins of this observance began in May 1991, when Congress unanimously passed a law to recognize May as AAPI Month.

May was selected to commemorate two important dates in U.S. history. The first Japanese individuals to immigrate to the United States arrived on May 7, 1843. Also, the anniversary of the completion of the transcontinental railroad is May 10, 1869. The majority of the workers who laid the railroad tracks were Chinese immigrants. This railroad was fundamental to the development of the American West, reducing travel time across the country from months to less than one week.

Illinois made history in 2021 when Governor J.B. Pritzker signed legislation that made our state the first in the nation to ensure that AAPI history is taught in public schools.



Recommended Reading



The Thousand Crimes of Ming Tsu
by Tom Lin



The Bandit Queens
by Parini Shroff



The Evening Hero
by Marie Myung-ok Lee



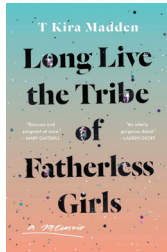
Bangkok Wakes to Rain
by Pitchaya Sudbanthad



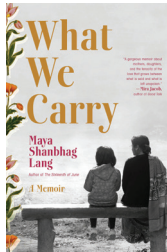
Once Upon a Sunset
by Tif Marcelo



The Best We Could Do
by Thi Bui



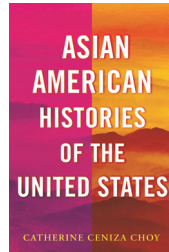
Long Live the Tribe of Fatherless Girls
by T Kira Madden



What We Carry
by Maya Lang



American Seoul
by Helena Rho



Asian American Histories of the United States
by Catherine Ceniza Choy

Featured Programs

✿ We Are Here

30 Inspiring Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders Who Have Shaped the United States

During the month of May, look throughout the library for portraits and profiles of inspirational AAPI activists, artists, musicians, actors, writers, scientists, and entrepreneurs. Dive deeper into their achievements through related content on a special website produced in partnership with the Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center.

Throughout May 🏛️

✿ AAPI Community Forum

Local community leaders of Asian American and Pacific Islander descent share how their heritage influences their values and vocation. Panelists include Grace Cao (Stevenson High School board member), JD Kim (president/founder of Korean American Law Enforcement Group) and Jeffrey Chang (Stevenson Foundation board member). Discussion is facilitated by Holly Kim (Lake County Treasurer).

Wednesday, May 10, 7–8 pm 🏛️

Look on the following pages for ✿ marking programs that celebrate our tribute.



Buzzworthy Spring Books

Who needs spring cleaning when you can spruce up your to-read list instead? These spring fiction releases have been generating quite the buzz in the book world and are sure to be a hit with readers of all genres.

Now You See Us
by Balli Kaur Jaswal

Saturday Night at the Lakeside Supper Club
by J. Ryan Stradal

In the Lives of Puppets
by T.J. Klune

The Great Reclamation
by Rachel Heng

Weyward
by Emilia Hart

Dust Child
by Nguyễn Phan Quế Mai

The Collected Regrets of Clover
by Mikki Brammer

The Ferryman
by Justin Cronin

Hello Beautiful
by Ann Napolitano

Hotel of Secrets
by Diana Biller

Sisters of the Lost Nation
by Nick Medina

Our Best Intentions
by Vibhuti Jain

Featured Resources *for adults*



COMPANION PETS

Check out an interactive companion pet: a plush-covered robotic cat or dog. Their soft fur and responsive movements and sounds provide comfort and cognitive stimulation for those affected by memory loss:
VAPLD.info/SeniorActivity



CONSUMER'S CHECKBOOK

Looking to hire someone to update your kitchen or to mow the lawn? Find ratings and reviews specific to Chicago-area service providers at
VAPLD.info/consumer



WEISS FINANCIAL

Get independent, unbiased financial strength ratings on stocks, mutual funds and exchange traded funds, as well as banks, credit unions, insurance companies, or compare Medicare Supplement Insurance Plans:
VAPLD.info/weiss

Classes & Events *for adults*

Note location with each event (🏠 in-person, 📺 online). Some events offer both in-person and streaming options for attendance. Events may move to Zoom if required by public health conditions. Free and open to all. Sign up (required) at VAPLD.info/calendar or call 224-543-1485.

Illinois Libraries Present

Log in for live events with celebrated authors and cultural influencers. Sign up in advance to receive the Zoom link.

These events are made possible by Illinois Libraries Present, a statewide collaboration among public libraries. Funded in part by a grant awarded by the Illinois State Library, a department of the Office of Secretary of State, using funds provided by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services, under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA).

The Weird & Wonderful World with Mary Roach

Wednesday, March 1, 7–8 pm 📺

Danny Trejo Talks Tacos, Hollywood & Redemption

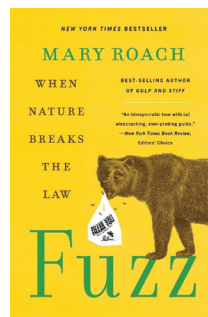
Tuesday, April 4, 7–8 pm 📺

Secrets of the Puzzle Master: A Conversation with Will Shortz

Tuesday, April 25, 7–8 pm 📺

On Being Fabulous with Jonathan Van Ness and Kristi Yamaguchi

Wednesday, May 17, 7–8 pm 📺



Classes & Events *for adults (continued)*

Parent Education: Self Care for the Caregivers

Dr. Caroline Adelman of Chicago Psychotherapy discusses how parental self-care improves well-being for the whole family. Presented in partnership with school districts 96, 102 and 103.

Wednesday, March 1, 7–8:15 pm  


The Negro Motorist Green Book

Learn about the travel guide that helped African American travelers find safe stops and avoid harassment during the Jim Crow era.

Monday, March 13, 1–2 pm  

Meet the Candidates Forum: School District 103

Get to know the candidates running for school board on the April ballot.

Monday, March 13, 7–8:30 pm 

CHALLENGER: Soaring with Christa McAuliffe™


Who is America's favorite teacher? Ask anyone about Christa McAuliffe and they will tell you exactly where they were when the Challenger shuttle launched; however, few people understand who Mrs. McAuliffe really was. This performance by History At Play™, LLC Founder and Artistic Director Judith Kalaora explores the true story behind

the incredible teacher and American pioneer.

Thursday, March 16, 7–8:15 pm 


Volunteer Fair

Browse this expo of local nonprofits and other organizations offering a variety of opportunities to get involved. Find a list of participants at VAPLD.info/VolunteerFair. Drop in.

Sunday, March 19, 1–3:30 pm 

Cricket: History & Basics

Learn about the world's second-most popular sport from Palak Limbachiya from Century Cricket League.

Monday, March 20, 7–8 pm  

Globalization Myths & Realities

Carthage College Political Science Professor Art Cyr covers the basics of global connectedness and its implications for our country.

Tuesday, March 21, 1–2 pm  

Debunking Medicare & Medicaid Myths

Avoid 14 common misunderstandings and get useful tips about maximizing your benefits.

Wednesday, March 22, 7–8 pm  

Eliminating Food Waste

Local nonprofit Mindful Waste shares ways to reduce food waste, stretch your budget, and restore the soil.

Monday, April 3, 7–8 pm 

SWALCO Shoe Recycling

Do the Earth a favor by keeping old shoes out of the landfill. Tie unused shoes together in pairs and drop off at the library for reuse or recycling.

April 7–22 

Growth of Chicago in Maps

Retrace Chicago's growth from a military fort to major metro and continental transportation hub.

Tuesday, April 11, 1–2 pm  

Bump to Baby

See details on page 13 or visit VAPLD.info/BumpToBaby.

Spark Talks: Thu., April 13, 7–8:30 pm 

Expo: Sat., April 15, 10 am–12:30 pm 

Senior Expo

Stop by the library booth at the annual Buffalo Grove Senior Expo. Free. No signup required.

Tuesday, April 18, 10 am–1 pm

 Buffalo Grove Community Arts Center



The Olmsted Legacy in Chicago

Learn how Chicago's identity was shaped by "the father of landscape architecture," Frederick Law Olmsted. Urban planner and Chicago Parks historian Julia Bachrach presents.

Tuesday, April 18, 1–2 pm  

Parent Education: What to Know When Your Child Turns 18

Preserve your ability to be informed and protect your child's interests after they become a legal adult. Presented by Shire Law Group in partnership with SHS Family Engagement.

Monday, April 24, 7–8:30 pm  

CHALLENGER: Soaring with Christa McAuliffe™



Designer Hacks for Easy Fresh Flower Arranging

Tips for choosing the right flowers, design techniques, and making flowers last longer.

Wednesday, April 26, 7–8 pm 🏛️

Kid Market

Browse and purchase handmade goods from this year's cohort of junior business school graduates in grades 2–8. This sale day is their opportunity to put what they've learned into practice. Come support these kids and be inspired by their initiative. Drop in.

Saturday, April 29, 1–3 pm 🏛️

Violins of Hope

Hear about the project to locate instruments taken from Jewish musicians during WWII and lovingly restore them as a tribute to those silenced by the Holocaust. Program includes a short presentation featuring violins from the traveling exhibition.

Tuesday, May 2, 7–8 pm 🏛️

✿ The Untold Story of Mahjong

Explore the history, symbolism, and evolution of this popular tile game.

Monday, May 8, 7–8 pm 🕒 🏛️

✿ AAPI Community Forum

Local community leaders of Asian American and Pacific Islander descent share how their heritage shapes their experiences and endeavors. See page 3 for details.

Wednesday, May 10, 7–8 pm 🏛️

Concert: Barehand String Band Duo

Jonas Fiddle and Anna Jacobson from Old Town School of Folk Music delight on fiddle and banjo.

Monday, May 15, 1–2 pm 🏛️

The Airborne on D-Day

Historian Robert Mueller details the critical role played by American airborne forces at Normandy.

Wednesday, May 24, 1–2 pm 🕒 🏛️



Violins of Hope

Technology, Business & Career Development

Pop-up Makerspace

Make a fun project using library equipment. See the online calendar for details and signup (required).

Thursdays, 7–8:30 pm 🏛️

March 9, April 13, May 11

Microsoft Word

Thursdays, 7–8:30 pm 🏛️

March 16: Basics

March 23: Working with Objects

March 30: Formatting

April 20: Advanced Topics

1-on-1 Resume Review

Meet with executive recruiter Jennifer Harris for personal feedback. A Vernon Area Library library card is required. Appointments are available on Wednesdays between 6–8 pm on the following dates:

March 22, April 26, May 24 🏛️

Microsoft Excel

Choose the sessions that interest you.

Tuesdays, 7–8:30 pm 🏛️

April 11: Basics

April 18: Formulas & Functions

April 25: Charts & Graphs

May 2: Pivot Tables

May 9: VLookup

Getting What You're Worth: Negotiating Job Offers, Raises & Promotions

Presented in partnership with the Lake Cook Career Collaborative member libraries. Find additional programs and resources at CareerCollab.org.

Monday, April 24, 7–8 pm 🕒

Microsoft PowerPoint

Choose basics, more advanced techniques, or both.

Thursdays, 7–8:30 pm 🏛️

April 27: Ready To Go (Basics)

May 4: Next Steps

Job Strategies for People with Disabilities

Get advice on topics from navigating the application process to how to self-identify and discuss workplace accommodations.

Wednesday, May 17, 7–8 pm 🕒 🏛️

Makerspace–DIY

Work on projects or learn new skills. A variety of supplies and equipment will be available for this self-guided session.

Thursday, May 18, 6:30–8 pm 🏛️

Discussion Groups & Meetups

Games for Grown-ups

Play tabletop games together online or at the library. Open to adults and high school students, individually or as a group.

Sundays, 12:30–4:30 pm  

March 5, March 26, April 16, May 7

English Language Learners Conversation Group

Practice your English conversation skills with a librarian and other non-native English speakers.

Tuesdays, 11 am–12 pm 

March 7 and 21, April 4 and 18, May 2 and 16

Book Discussion with Judy Levin

Read and discuss intriguing selections beyond the best sellers.

Thursdays, 10–11:30 am 


March 9: *Clark & Division* by Naomi Hirahara

April 13: *Still Life* by Sarah Winman

May 11: *The Island of Missing Trees* by Elif Shafak

Writers' Support Group

Share work, meet fellow writers, get constructive feedback and discuss the publishing business in this informal group. All writers welcome.

Thursdays, 6:30–8:30 pm 

March 9, April 6, May 11

Great Decisions Foreign Policy Discussion

Guided discussion of current topics in foreign policy. Sign up for each month separately.

Fridays, 1–3 pm: March 10, April 21, May 19  

Wednesdays, 10:30 am–12:30 pm: Mar. 15, April 19, May 17  

Must-Read Nonfiction

Read and discuss real-life stories that are engaging, informative, and important.

Mondays, 7–8 pm 

March 13: *In Love: A Memoir of Love and Loss* by Amy Bloom

April 17: *The Facemaker: A Visionary Surgeon's Battle to Mend the Disfigured Soldiers of World War I* by Lindsey Fitzharris

May 15: *Fen, Bog & Swamp: A Short History of Peatland Destruction & Its Role in the Climate Crisis* by Annie Proulx

Thirsty Thursdays: Books on Tap

For readers in their 20s and 30s. See [Meetup.com](https://www.meetup.com) for details and signup.

Thursdays, 6–8 pm  The Chatter Box, Long Grove

March 16, April 20,  May 18

Reel Talk Movie Discussion

Use your library card to check out or screen the film in advance, then log in to share your thoughts.

Fridays, 3:30–4:30 pm 


March 17: *I, Tonya*

April 21: *Pig*

May 19:  *Dim Sum: A Little Bit of Heart*

Novel Night Book Discussion

Read and discuss captivating fiction you might have missed.

Tuesdays, 7–8:15 pm 

March 21: *West with Giraffes* by Lynda Rutledge

May 16:  *River of Stars* by Vanessa Hua

Memory Café

Offering people with memory loss and their care partners activity and connection in a safe, supportive environment.

Thursdays, 2–3 pm  Alcott Center, Buffalo Grove

March 23, April 27, May 25

Off the Hook: Knit & Crochet Group

Craft in the company of other crafters, online.

Mondays, 7–8:30 pm 

March 27, April 24, May 22

World Language Movie Discussion: *Golden Voices*

View the movie on your own in advance, then join a discussion with other fans of international cinema.

Wednesday, April 26, 7–8 pm 



Explore the night sky

Did you know you can check out a telescope with your Vernon Area Public Library card? Borrow an Orion StarBlast telescope and enjoy a nighttime viewing session in your own backyard. The Orion StarBlast is a compact grab-and-go telescope designed for entry-level and intermediate enthusiasts. Its nicely-sized aperture and quality lens provide bright, detailed views of solar system targets like the moon and planets, as well as wide-field celestial objects like nebulae and star clusters.

Lightweight and easy to use, each telescope comes with a starter kit of helpful tips, compass, headlamp, and constellation guide.

Available for three weeks at a time. Vernon Area Library cardholders can reserve one by finding "starblast" or "orion telescope" in the library catalog.

Classes & Events *for teens*

Note location with each item (🏠 in-person, 🌐 online). Events may move to Zoom if required by public health conditions. All events are free and open to all. Sign up (required) at [VAPLD.info/calendar](https://vapl.org/calendar) or 224-543-1486.



Parent Education: Self Care for the Caregivers

PARENTS OF STUDENTS IN GRADES K-12

Dr. Caroline Adelman of Chicago Psychotherapy discusses how parental self-care improves well-being for the whole family. Presented in partnership with school districts 96, 102 and 103.

Wednesday, March 1, 7–8:15 pm 🌐 🏠

Chess Mini-Games GRADES 5–8

Practice basics and advance your skills by playing smaller chess games. Beginners welcome.

Monday, March 6, 7–8:30 pm 🏠

Cook Along with Chef Kristyn THROUGH GRADE 8

Add some fun to a Friday night by cooking along with the group from home on Zoom.

Fridays, 7–8 pm 🌐

March 10: Donuts

April 14: Snack-cuterie

May 12: Garden Party

Korean Games with BTS GRADES 6–8

Play some of the games from the Korean variety show *Run BTS!* Win swag, learn about Korean culture and have fun.

Thursday, March 16, 7–8:30 pm 🏠

Cricket: History & Basics TEENS & ADULTS

Learn about the world's second-most popular sport from Palak Limbachiya from Century Cricket League.

Monday, March 20, 7–8 pm 🌐 🏠

Off the Page: A Teen Book Club GRADES 8–12

Participants get a copy of the book to keep and custard (our treat!)

Mondays, 7–8:15 pm

🏠 Culver's, Lincolnshire

March 20: *A Clash of Steel: A Treasure Island Remix* by C.B. Lee

April 17: *Legendborn* by Tracy Deonn

Craft-a-Palooza THROUGH GRADE 8

Drop in and put your imagination to work. We supply a wide variety of craft materials; you decide what to make. No signup required.

Friday, March 31, 1–3 pm 🏠

Rebecca Caudill Award Book Discussion GRADES 6–8

Discuss *Wink* by Rob Harrell. Ross Maloy just wants to be a normal 7th grader, not "the cancer kid." Pick up a copy of the book (yours to keep) at the Youth Desk when you sign up.

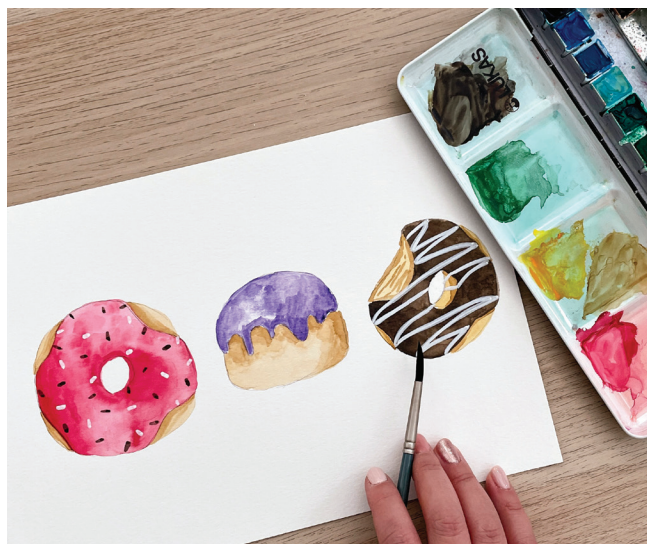
Thursday, April 6, 7–8 pm 🏠

Sphero Money Mania GRADES 6–8

Gain money smarts by playing games using the Sphero robot.

Monday, April 10, 7–8:30 pm 🏠

Watercolor Workshop



Teen Take & Make Craft Kits **GRADES 6–12**



Reserve beginning 30 days in advance; pick up on the date indicated.

April 21: DIY Foam Squishies

May 19: Amigurumi Octopus

Parent Education: What to Know When Your Child Turns 18 **PARENTS OF STUDENTS IN GRADES 9+**

Preserve your ability to be informed and protect your child's interests after they become a legal adult. Presented by Shire Law Group in partnership with SHS Family Engagement.

Monday, April 24, 7–8:30 pm  

Kid Market **ALL AGES**

Browse and purchase homemade goods from this year's cohort of junior business school graduates in grades 2–8. The Kid Market sale day is their opportunity to put their learning into practice. Come support their initiative and be inspired by their creativity.

Saturday, April 29, 1–3 pm 

✳️ Watercolor Workshop **GRADES 6–12**

Learn watercolor techniques with local artist and Stevenson alum Audrey Ra. Our subject is delicious donuts.

Thursday, May 4, 7–8 pm 

✳️ AAPI Community Forum **TEENS & ADULTS**

Local community leaders of Asian American and Pacific Islander descent share how their heritage shapes their experiences and endeavors. See page 3 for details.

Wednesday, May 10, 7–8 pm 

Chess Challenge Meetup **GRADES 5–8**

Already know how to play chess? Join friends for practice games.

Monday, May 15, 7–8:15 pm 

Job Strategies for People with Disabilities

TEENS & ADULTS

Get advice on topics from navigating the application process to how to self-identify and discuss workplace accommodations.

Wednesday, May 17, 7–8 pm  

Exam Cram **GRADES 9–12**

Study solo or as a group in space exclusively for high school students.

May 20–25 


✳️ AAPI Heritage Month

Teen Volunteering



Volunteer Fair **TEENS & ADULTS**

Browse booths from local nonprofits and service organizations, including Habitat for Humanity, League of Women Voters, and Rainbow Animal Assisted Therapy, among others. Learn about opportunities to give back to your community. No signup required.

Sunday, March 19, 1–3:30 pm 

Online Volunteering **GRADES 7–12**

Help others from where you are and earn service hours, too. See [VAPLD.info/TeenVolunteers](https://vapld.info/TeenVolunteers) for details.

through April 14 

Apply to be a Junior Volunteer

STUDENTS ENTERING GRADES 7–12 IN THE FALL

Apply to volunteer at the library this summer, where you will help with the Summer Library Club in June and July. Volunteering at the library is a great way to contribute to your community, develop new skills, and earn service hours.

Volunteers will be chosen via lottery from all qualifying applications. If you are selected, you'll receive an email from the library no later than Friday, April 21.

Find an online application and details about required training session dates at [VAPLD.info/TeenVolunteers](https://vapld.info/TeenVolunteers).

Applications accepted April 3–8





‘Biz Kids’ Show Their Skills

Building the next generation of business leaders at the library

This spring, two dozen local students are voluntarily taking on extra homework from the library. Not for a grade, but as a jump-start to their entrepreneurial ambitions. And possibly for profit.

“Kid Market” is an annual mini-business school experience for students in grades 2–8. Participants complete weekly lessons on a mix of topics including both business and life skills, accompanied by personal feedback and encouragement from Vernon Area Business Librarian Ashley Johnson.

At the end of the lessons, participants put learning into practice by selling their products at a farmers market-style event at the library. The sale day provides an opportunity for the Kid Marketers to showcase their products and business acumen to family, friends, and the public. Past product offerings have included everything from home decor to joke books, accessories, and fidget toys.

Participants and parents alike give the series rave reviews, praising it for teaching the fundamentals of being a business owner in an approachable way.

With the start of a business foundation and a positive, encouraging experience under their belt, Kid Marketers are poised to go far. “We imagine Kid Market to be the event that future business leaders look back on as the defining moment in their trajectory into business or entrepreneurship,” said Johnson.

This year’s Kid Market sale day will take place on Saturday, April 29, from 1–3 p.m. All are invited. Shoppers may want to come prepared with small bills and lots of appreciation.

Kid Market

Saturday, April 29, 1–3 pm

Vernon Area Public Library

VAPLD.info/KidMarket



Featured Resources *for kids*



MUSEUM PASSES

Get discounts at dozens of museums and attractions with your library card. Start your adventure at VAPLD.info/museum-passes



PARENT EDUCATION

Tap into free programs to enhance your parenting skills, improve child development outcomes, and strengthen family relationships. Offered in partnership with local school districts.
VAPLD.info/ParentEd



EXPLORA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

This encyclopedia for grades K–5 is a perfect resource for school projects with a wide range of topics available.
VAPLD.info/exploraES

Classes & Events *for kids*

Note location with each item (🏛️ in-person, 🌐 online). Events may move to Zoom if required by public health conditions. Free and open to all. Sign up is required unless otherwise specified. Sign up at VAPLD.info/calendar or 224-543-1486.



Spring Bird Migration

Parent Education: Self Care for the Caregivers

PARENTS OF STUDENTS IN GRADES K-12

Dr. Caroline Adelman of Chicago Psychotherapy discusses how parental self-care improves well-being for the whole family. Presented in partnership with school districts 96, 102 and 103.

Wednesday, March 1, 7–8:15 pm 🌐 🏛️

Take & Make Kits **ALL AGES**

Stop by and pick up instructions and supplies to make a craft. No signup required. Available while supplies last beginning:

March 10: Celebrate Ramadan

April 14: Spring

✿ May 5: Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage Celebration

May 24: Pride Celebration

Cook Along with Chef Kristyn

GRADES K-8

Add some fun to a Friday night by cooking along with the group from home on Zoom.

Fridays, 7–8 pm 🌐

March 10: Donuts

April 14: Snack-cuterie

May 12: Garden Party

Pete the Cat's Fraction Fiasco

GRADES K-2

Celebrate Pi Day (3/14) with a story and game about pizza.

Monday, March 13, 6:30–7:15 pm 🏛️

Lego Master Builders **GRADES K-5**

Work to complete building challenges, then stay for free-build time.

Tuesday, March 28 🏛️

Grades K–2: 2–3 pm

Grades 3–5: 4–5 pm

Sing-Along Movie:

The Little Mermaid **AGES 3-12**

Dance, sing, and interact with the movie. Every child signed up will receive a bag of props to use during the movie.

Thursday, March 30, 1:30–3:15 pm

or 4–6 pm 🏛️

Craft-a-Palooza **GRADES K-8**

Put your imagination to work! We supply a wide variety of craft materials; you decide what to make. Drop in.

Friday, March 31, 1–3 pm 🏛️

Roller Coaster Science GRADES K-5

Hands-on workshop explores the science principles of thrill rides.

Tuesday, April 4 🏛️

Grades K-2: 4:30-5:15 pm

Grades 3-5: 6:30-7:30 pm

Sphero Money Mania GRADES 3-5

Learn basic money management skills by playing games with the Sphero robot.

Monday, April 10, 4:30-6 pm 🏛️

¡Lotería! Family Game Night

GRADES K-5

Learn Spanish vocabulary in this bingo-type game played with words instead of numbers.

Tuesday, April 11, 6:30 pm-7:30 pm 🏛️

Cartooning Workshop GRADES K-5

Space is the theme of this cartoon drawing workshop with library favorite Mark Anderson.

Tues, April 18, 4:30-5:30 pm or 6-7 pm 🏛️

K9 Reading Buddies GRADES 1-5

Build reading confidence by reading aloud to a patient trainer therapy dog. Call 224-543-1486 beginning 30 days before the program.

Wednesday, April 19, 6:15-7:30 pm 🏛️

Bluestem Award Book Discussion

GRADES 3-5 WITH AN ADULT

This parent-child book group will discuss *A Thousand Questions* by Saadia Faruqi. Pick up a copy of the book (yours to keep) at the Youth Desk.

Thursday, April 20, 7-8 pm 🏛️

Anansi the Spider GRADES K-5

Improv Playhouse presents this West African folktale about a trickster.

Saturday, April 22, 11 am-12 pm 🏛️

Spring Bird Migration GRADES K-5

Learn the amazing story of migration, then decorate a birdhouse to take home.

Tuesday, April 25 🏛️

Grades K-2: 4:30-5:30 pm

Grades 3-5: 7-8 pm



Exploring Great Artists: Yayoi Kusama

Kid Market ALL AGES

Browse and purchase handmade goods from your friends and classmates in grades 2-8 who completed the Kid Market lesson series. Drop in.

Saturday, April 29, 1-3 pm 🏛️

✳️ Origami Workshop GRADES K-5

Make paper flowers in honor of AAPI Heritage Month. Supplies included.

Monday, May 1, 4:30-5:30 pm 🏛️

Lego Robotics GRADES K-5

Build and program the Hungry Alligator model using the LEGO Education WeDo software in this fun, hands-on program.

Wednesday, May 3 🏛️

Grades K-2: 4:30-5:30 pm

Grades 3-5: 7-8 pm

Drawing Comics with

Jarrett J. Krosoczka ALL AGES

An online program for families from Illinois Libraries Present.

Saturday, May 6, 10-11 am 📺

✳️ Family Concert: Little Miss Ann

ALL AGES

Bring the whole family for a great free performance, then visit the library afterward to check out books, movies, games and more.

Saturday, May 6, 11-11:45 am 🏛️

✳️ Exploring Great Artists:

Yayoi Kusama GRADES K-5

Learn about the "princess of polka dots," Then follow along step-by-step to create your own polka dot masterpiece.

Tuesday, May 9 🏛️

Grades K-2: 4:30-5:30 pm

Grades 3-5: 7-8 pm

✳️ Korean Drum Performance

GRADES K-5

With the Korean Performing Arts Institute of Chicago.

Saturday, May 13, 11 am-12 pm 🏛️

Chess Challenge Meetup GRADES 2-4

Already know how to play? Test your knowledge, sharpen your skills and meet new friends.

Monday, May 15, 4:30-5:45 pm 🏛️

Spring STEM Storytime GRADES K-2

Featuring a grumpy-but-loveable bear and a variety of related science activities.

Thursday, May 18, 4:30-5:15 pm 🏛️

Featured Resources *for birth to pre-k*



PUZZLES & GAMES

Puzzles are great for practicing important skills like hand-eye coordination, problem-solving, and patience. Choose from more than 100 puzzles available for checkout. Browse them in the library or online at VAPLD.info/puzzles



LIFE CHANGES

These picture books offer perspective to little people dealing with big topics, such as a new family member or the loss of one, moving house, or even potty training. Look in the Picture Book Room or at VAPLD.info/LifeChanges



TUMBLEBOOKS

Instant, anywhere e-books including new and classic picture books, nonfiction, graphic novels, and read-alongs for children: VAPLD.info/tumblebook

Classes & Events *for birth to pre-k*

Sign Up in Advance

Note location with each item (🏠 in-person, 📺 online). Events may move to Zoom if required by public health conditions. Free and open to all. Sign up at VAPLD.info/calendar, or call 224-543-1486, or visit any public service desk in the library.

Evening Stories with Miss Emily AGE 3–GRADE 2

Put on pajamas and relax with a bedtime story. Sign up for each month separately.

Wednesdays, 7–7:30 pm 📺

March 1, 8, 15; April 5, 12, 19; May 3, 10, 17

Science Detectives AGES 3–6

STEM-themed stories and activities with Miss Lisa Marie.

Fridays, 10–10:30 am 🏠

March 3, April 7, May 5

Mini Math Magicians AGES 3–5

Explore math concepts through books, games and activities with preschool pro Miss Emily.

Thursdays, 10–10:30 am 🏠

March 23, April 27

Bilingual Storytime AGES 0–6

Read stories and sing songs in English and another language.

Fridays, 10–10:30 am 🏠

Mandarin: March 24, 🌸 May 26

Spanish: April 28

Music & Movement Storytime AGES 0–6

Read, sing, and dance together in a musical storytime with Miss Julia.

Monday, March 27, 10–10:30 am 🏠

Sunshine Squad AGES 0–6

Stories and activities focused on making the world a kinder, sunnier place for everyone.

Wednesdays, 10–10:45 am 🏠

March 29: Tomorrow's Leaders

May 31: Saying Sorry

Sing-Along Movie: *The Little Mermaid* AGES 3–12

Your child's signup includes a bag of props to use (and keep!) as they dance, sing and interact along with the movie.

Thursday, March 30, 1:30–3:15 or 4–6 pm 🏠

🌸 Family Concert: Little Miss Ann ALL AGES

Chicago favorite Little Miss Ann is back! Bring the whole family for this interactive show, then visit the library afterward to check out books, movies, games, and more.

Saturday, May 6, 11–11:45 am 🏠

Drop In

It's easier than ever to make storytime part of your family's weekly routine. Drop in for the session that's right for your child's age. Claim an entry ticket when you arrive, then join the fun!

Baby Rhyme Storytime **0-14 MONTHS**

Grow your baby's brain with songs, rhymes, and books with Miss Kelsey. Then connect and socialize with other new parents while your baby plays with educational toys.

Wednesdays, 9:30–10 am 🏛️

March 1, 8, 22; April 5, 12, 26; May 3, 10, 24

Wiggling Ones **12-24 MONTHS**

Add 30 minutes of joy to your week. Giggle, sing, and play along with your little one, other families, and Miss Julia.

Tuesdays, 9:30–10 am or 10:30–11 am 🏛️

March 7, 14, 21; April 11, 18, 25; May 2, 9, 16

Together 2s & 3s **AGES 2-3**

Share stories and learn sign language with Miss Sarah. Activities center around a letter of the day.

Mondays, 9:30–10 am or 10:30–11 am 🏛️

March 6, 13, 20; April 3, 10, 17; May 8, 15, 22

Preschool Storytime **AGES 3-5**

Get ready for school with Miss Emily by practicing the language, listening, and pre-reading skills needed for kindergarten. Children attend without an adult.

Thursdays, 9:30–10 am or 10:30–11 am 🏛️

March 2, 9, 16; April 6, 13, 20; May 4, 11, 18

Starry Night Storytime **AGES 0-6**

Wind down your day with an evening storytime with Miss Julia.


Thursdays, 6–6:30 pm 🏛️

March 23, April 27, May 25



Bump to Baby: Spark Talks

The wide world of parenting can be daunting and challenging. From the comfort of your home, join alongside this local panel of experts as they share quick snippets of popular parenting topics that will give you the knowledge and confidence to raise a happy and healthy baby. Sign up in advance to receive the Zoom link.

Thursday, April 13, 7–8:30 pm 

Bump to Baby Expo

Drop in to connect with local businesses and networking groups and gather information on relevant parenting topics. While at the Expo, get to know your library's stellar programs, play space, and friendly staff. No signup required. Free and open to the public.

Saturday, April 15, 10 am–12:30 pm 🏛️

Vernon Area Public Library
300 Olde Half Day Rd.
Lincolnshire, IL 60069-2901

Connect

VAPLD.info

Main: 847-634-3650

Text: 847-565-6457

App: Look for Vernon Area Public Library in your device's App Store

Get a Library Card

Free and available to all district residents. Apply online at VAPLD.info/card or visit.

Returns

Return materials 24/7 to the drive-up slot on the front of the library or at these drop boxes:
VAPLD.info/bookdrops

Open

Monday–Thursday	9 am – 9 pm
Friday–Saturday	9 am – 5 pm
Sunday	10 am – 5 pm

Before-hours access is available daily for people who prefer a “mask required” environment. See VAPLD.info or call 847-634-3650 for info about special operating hours.

Closed

Sunday, April 9
Friday, May 12 (staff training)
Sunday, May 28
Monday, May 29



▲ Check this out

New parents, expecting families: Drop in to the **Bump to Baby Expo** at the library on Saturday, April 15, from 10 am–12:30 pm to learn what's new and tried-and-true in pregnancy, birth, and early childhood development. Browse local organizations, daycares, and networking groups and even have a chance to win prizes. Look inside on page 17 or visit VAPLD.info/BumpToBaby